

March 17, 2015

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 2

The Honorable Don L. Tripp, Speaker of the House and
Members of the House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Honorable Speaker Tripp and Members of the House:

Pursuant to the Constitution of the State of New Mexico, Article IV, Section 22, I hereby VETO and return HOUSE BILL 379 enacted by the Fifty-Second Legislature, First Session, 2015.

House Bill 379 requires the New Mexico Racing Commission (Commission) to follow the guidelines for testing racehorse specimens, such as blood serum plasma, urine, or other appropriate tests as established in the Model Rules published by the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI).

Even without this legislation, the Commission procedures already meet or exceed the standards set by the ARCI. In fact, last year, the ARCI recognized the excellence achieved by the Commission awarding its Executive Director the President's Award for Exemplary Service.

Additionally, New Mexico statutes already require that samples collected from racehorses be tested at laboratories that meet standards established by the ARCI, and require testing samples for unauthorized drugs, chemicals, stimulants, depressants, and other performance-altering substances as defined by the ARCI.

Language in this bill also weakens standards by not allowing for the commission to adopt regulations that exceed the ARCI rules. For these reasons, I find that this legislation is unnecessary and potentially detrimental, and I hereby veto House Bill 379.

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Respectfully yours,

Susana Martinez

Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____, 2015

By _____
Secretary of State

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____, 2015

By _____
Chief Clerk of the House